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- (b) a modification list for storing the identified changes to the master source file set;
 - (c) a transmitter for transmitting the modification list to one or more agents having access to a destination file system;
 - (d) a transmitter for transmitting the a copy of a changed file of the master source file set to a web cache server; and
 - (e) a receiver for receiving a response indicating that the web cache server received the copy of the changed file of the master source file set.

Cl 21.(New) The method of claim 4 wherein the file attribute is stored in a list of file attributes.

REMARKS

Claim Cancellations, Additions, and Status

Claims 1-10, 12-18, and 20 were pending in this application. Upon entry of this Amendment and Response, there are 19 claims pending, claims 1-10, 12-18, 20, and 21. Claims 1, 12, 15, 16, and 20 are independent claims, and claims 2-10, 13, 14, 17, 18, and 21 are dependent claims.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 3-10, 12, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over United States Patent No. 6,182,117 to *Christie et al.* ("Christie"). Claims 2, 13, 16-18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Christie. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Christie

In Christie, a store-and-forward messaging network such as an e-mail system is used to replicate data between computer sites. Each site includes a replication agent. The functionality of the replication agent is described, at least in part, at column 3, lines 37-46:

The replication agent for each site determines the state of the site. The replication agent corresponds with other sites by sending e-mail messages to the other sites. The replication agent sends a message to other sites that indicates the state of its site. The replication agent uses the information received from another site to determine the objects that should be replicated between the sites. For example, the replication agent uses another site's information to determine which objects need to be sent to that site and which objects should be replicated to its own site.

In Christie, the agent of each site communicates with the agent of the other sites. A site-by-site determination is made of the files that need to be updated on each respective site.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Applicants' independent claims 1, 12, and 15 recite, in part, "... identifying changes in the master source file set on a master computer ..." and "transmitting ... the modification list to one or more computers" Support for this is found in Applicants' originally-filed specification at, for example, page 12, lines 17-27 and page 17, line 25 through page 18, line 5.

Christie fails to teach or suggest "identifying changes in the master source file set on a master computer" as now claimed. In contrast, Christie teaches each site having an agent, which uses information from the other sites, to determine which files need to be updated. Christie thus does not describe "identifying changes in a master source file set on a master computer." In Christie, there is no master source file set or master computer, and so, each site determines what files need to be updated independently, and each site receives an independent list of files to be updated.

In contrast, Applicants' independent claims 1, 12, and 15 recite, in part, "transmitting ... the modification list to one or more computers ..." so that each of the one or more computers receives "the modification list." To be clear, in Christie, each agent determines independently which files are to be updated. This is at least in part because Christie is distributed, rather than centralized. Christie's sites receive different information, not the same information. Therefore, Christie fails to teach or suggest amended independent claims 1, 12, and 15, and the claims which depend directly or indirectly from them.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In contrast to Christie, each of Applicants' independent claims 16 and 20 now recites identifying changes to a master source file set on a master computer. As stated above, Christie does not use a master source file set on a master computer. Instead, Christie uses agents at each site to determine, based upon information received from other agents, which files need to be updated at the local site. In Christie, there is no master source file set or master computer. As such, Christie fails to teach or suggest amended independent claims 16 and 20, and the claims which depend directly or indirectly from them.

Conclusion

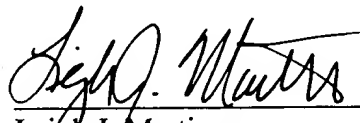
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections, and allowance of all claims (i.e., 1-10, 12-18, 20, and 21), in due course. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorney would be helpful, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.(Twice Amended) A method for notifying a computer of changes to a master source file set, comprising the steps of:

- (a) identifying changes in the master source file set on a master computer;
- (b) storing the identified changes in a modification list comprising uniform resource locators specifying a changed file of the master source file set;
- (c) transmitting the modification list to [the]one or more computers, thereby notifying the one or more computers that the master source file set has changed; and
- (d) receiving a response from the one or more computers indicating that the identified changes are installed.

2.(Twice Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one computers [is]comprises a web cache server.

3.(Twice Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying step comprises the steps of:
inspecting a current version of the master source file set; and
comparing the current master source file set to a previous version of the master source file set on the master computer.

12.(Twice Amended) A method for replicating changes in a master source file set on a destination file system and for notifying [a]one or more computers of the changes, comprising the steps of:

- (a) identifying changes in the master source file set on a master computer;
- (b) storing the changes in a first modification list;
- (c) transmitting the first modification list to an agent having access to the destination file system;
- (d) storing the changes in a second modification list comprising uniform resource locators specifying a changed file of the master source file set;
- (e) transmitting the second modification list to the one or more computers, thereby notifying the one or more computers that the master source file set has changed; and

(f) receiving a response indicating that the identified changes are installed.

13.(Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the one or more computers [is]comprises a web cache server.

15.(Twice Amended) A method for replicating changes in a master source file set on a destination file system and for notifying [a]one or more computers of the changes, comprising the steps of:

- (a) identifying changes in the master source file set on a master computer;
- (b) storing the changes in a modification list comprising uniform resource locators specifying a changed file of the master source file list;
- (c) transmitting the modification list to [an] one or more agents having access to the destination file system;
- (d) transmitting the modification list to the one or more computers, thereby notifying the one or more computers the master source file set has changed; and
- (e) receiving a response indicating the identified changes are installed.

16.(Twice Amended) A web service system, comprising:
a manager for managing the web service system;
a host comprising a web server for receiving web page requests and an agent in communication with the manager and the web server;
a web cache; and
a content distributor in communication with the web cache, the host, and the manger, the content distributor providing notification of changes to a master source file set on a master computer to the host and receiving a response indicating that the identified changes are installed.

18.(Twice Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the content distributor comprises:
(a) an identification module for identifying changes in the master source file set on a master computer;

- (b) a modification list for storing identified changes to the master source file set;
- (c) a transmitter for transmitting the modification list to the agent, the agent having access to a destination file system; and

(d) a receiver for receiving a response indicating that the identified changes are installed.

20.(Twice Amended) A content distributor, comprising:

(a) an identification module for identifying changes in a master source file set on a master computer;

(b) a modification list for storing the identified changes to the master source file set;

(c) a transmitter for transmitting the modification list to [an] one or more agents having access to a destination file system;

(d) a transmitter for transmitting the a copy of a changed file of the master source file set to a web cache server; and

(e) a receiver for receiving a response indicating that the web cache server received the copy of the changed file of the master source file set.

21.(New) The method of claim 4 wherein the file attribute is stored in a list of file attributes.